



GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION

Vehicle Structure & Safety Integration

09V-080

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FIELD OF DEFECTS
INVESTIGATION

March 10, 2009

Mr. Daniel C. Smith
Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Recall Management Division (NVS-215)
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE – Room W45-306
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. Smith:

The following information is submitted pursuant to the requirements of 49 CFR 573.6 as it applies to a determination by General Motors of a safety defect involving certain 2009 model year HUMMER H3T vehicles.

573.6(c)(1): Hummer Brand of General Motors Corporation

573.6(c)(2)(3)(4): This information is shown on the attached sheet.

573.6(c)(5): General Motors has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2009 model year HUMMER H3T vehicles. Some of these vehicles have a condition in which the fuel tank front support strap may fracture. If this occurs, the fuel tank would be supported by the rear support strap and stone shield only. Continued use of the vehicle may eventually fracture the rear support strap and shield fasteners. If this were to occur, the fuel tank could separate from the vehicle.

573.6(c)(6): Strap fracture incidents were reported on durability vehicles in late 2008. The design of the strap was identified as the root cause for the incidents and in November 2008 Product Investigations involvement began. GM Engineering initially believed that strap fracture would be a high mileage issue in severe usage applications. Also, computer analysis indicated that straps on only approximately 1% of the suspect population would contain a build condition that could lead to strap fracture within vehicle life.

A third strap fracture incident occurred on a durability truck on December 18, 2008. Additional studies indicated that the rate of vehicles susceptible to strap fracture may be higher than 1%. A fourth strap fracture incident occurred on a durability vehicle on February 9, 2009. On February 23, 2008 Product Investigations evaluated a vehicle simulating the subject condition.

The issue was presented to the Field Performance Evaluation Review Committee and on March 9, 2009, the Executive Field Action Decision Committee decided to conduct a safety recall.

573.6(c)(8): Dealers are to install a new-design fuel tank front support strap.

Pursuant to 577.11(e), GM does not plan to provide notice about reimbursement to owners because all involved vehicles are covered under the new vehicle warranty.

573.6(c)(9): The dealer bulletin and owner letter will be provided when available. It is anticipated that the dealer bulletin will be sent April 3, 2009 and owner letters will be mailed April 10, 2009.

Sincerely,

Gay P. Kent
Director

Product Investigations

N090048

Attachment

Product Investigations

Mail Code: 480-210-G11 • 30001 Van Dyke Road • Warren, MI 48090-9020

N090048 - 573 Letter.doc

573.6(c)(2),(3),(4)

VEHICLES POTENTIALLY AFFECTED BY MAKE, MODEL, AND MODEL YEAR
PLUS INCLUSIVE DATES OF MANUFACTURE

<u>MAKE</u>	<u>MODEL SERIES</u>	<u>MODEL YEAR</u>	<u>NUMBER INVOLVED</u>	<u>INCLUSIVE MANUFACTURING DATES</u>		<u>DESCRIPTIVE INFO. TO PROPERLY IDENT. VEH.</u>	<u>EST. NO. W/CONDITION</u>
				<u>(FROM)</u>	<u>(TO)</u>		
Hummer	RV	2009	1,738	06/2008	10/2008	Hummer	*
GM Total:			1,738				

* All involved vehicles will be corrected as necessary.

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